

**City of Buffalo**  
**Board of Ethics Meeting**  
**Minutes**

Tuesday, September 10, 2019

**Members in Attendance:** Douglas Coppola, Cavette Chambers, James Magavern, Tianna Marks, Meghan Brown

**Guest:** Deidre Williams of the "Buffalo News"

**Quorum**

**New Business:**

- 1) Oluwole McFoy, GM for Buffalo Sewer Authority submitted travel request for Int'l Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI): 11/5 – 11/12/17 in Germany. Submitted 11/27/17; received & filed.
- 2) Mayor Brown submitted a Transactions Disclosure Statement on 1/8/18, stating that on 12/12/17, he traveled to NYC for the Cities of Service Mayors Council meeting; received & filed.
- 3) 2018 & 2019 BOE Financial Disclosures were completed by all City employees & Board members; Meghan Brown submitted her 2019 Disclosure 9/10/19
- 4) Councilmember Scanlon submitted an Ordinance Amendment for the Board of Ethics to Common Council on 3/6/18. It went to Legislative Committee, which met on 3/13/18; it was approved by Common Council on 4/3/19. BOE to revisit this issue (Section 12:15, subcategories A-C) at October meeting
- 5) Elizabeth Harned, resigned from BOE 11/5/17; Richard Sullivan resigned on 6/30/17. BOE couldn't meet without a quorum. Judge Craig Hannah, on behalf of the Nominating Committee, submitted one name to Mayor Brown for a replacement, dated 1/8/18. Status: 8/7/19, new member: Meghan Brown; her term expires 10/31/19 (reflecting Richard Sullivan's unexpired term)
- 6) BOE member, Eleanor Paterson retired from her employment earlier this year & moved from the area. Letter sent to Eleanor asking for BOE resignation notice. Judge Hannah contacted by Doug for another name to fill 2<sup>nd</sup> vacancy on BOE.
- 7) Email from Paul Wolf, President of Buffalo Niagara Coalition for Open Government, received 6/2/19 asking for BOE's public information. Clerk's office to update website to share more information, example: BOE names & link for inquiries to go to Sharon; she will then contact BOE members.

**Old Business:**

- 1) At the July 18, 2017 meeting of the Committee of Legislature, Council Members requested an opinion/recommendation from the BOE concerning a Preservation Board member against James Comerford, Jr., Commissioner of Permits & Inspections for the City of Buffalo.

There was a decision of 980 Ellicott Street by the NYS Supreme Court into possible ethical violations by a Preservation Board member. BOE opinion was to be mailed to Preservation Board member early November 2017. Early January, a letter was received from Preservation Board member regarding the Financial Disclosure statements. Jim Magavern requested the BOE to review the current Financial Disclosure forms for unpaid Non-City Board Members for accuracy.

*Approval of the November 1, 2017 minutes. Received and filed.*

*Next meeting scheduled for 10/22/19*